

New plastic gas pipes in store for Wigan

National Grid engineers to replace 1km of gas mains in Wigan

21 Jun 2016

- Old metal main to be replaced with modern plastic pipe
- Work will take 20 weeks to complete
- New mains designed to last at least 80 years once in the ground

National Grid engineers start work on Monday 11 July on a 20 week project to replace just over 1km of medium pressure gas pipe in the Poolstock Lane area of Wigan.

The project will see metal gas mains which are nearing the end of their useful life replaced with modern hard-wearing plastic pipes.

The work will be carried out from the junction opposite Worsley Mesnes Drive along Poolstock Lane/Poolstock to the junction of Corporation Street.

Throughout there will be in operation rolling temporary traffic lights on Poolstock Lane/Poolstock from the junction of Worsley Mesnes Drive to the junction with Corporation Street. Parking restrictions will be strictly enforced within area controlled by temporary traffic lights.

There will be road closures at Holborn Avenue, Grange Avenue, Morton Avenue and Corporation Street. These will be staggered so that access onto Poolstock Lane is maintained at all times.

The work will not affect gas supplies to homes and businesses in the area.

Stephen Murray, Head of Contract for National Grid said: "We hope that people will be patient with us during our work. We'll be doing all we can to speed up the job, including putting the new plastic pipe inside the old metal one where we can, to reduce the number of holes in the road we have to dig. We know that it will cause delays for motorists travelling through this part of town but we would ask them to bear with us.

"There will be disruption in the short-term, but the long-term benefit will be a safe and reliable gas supply for the people of Wigan for generations to come."

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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